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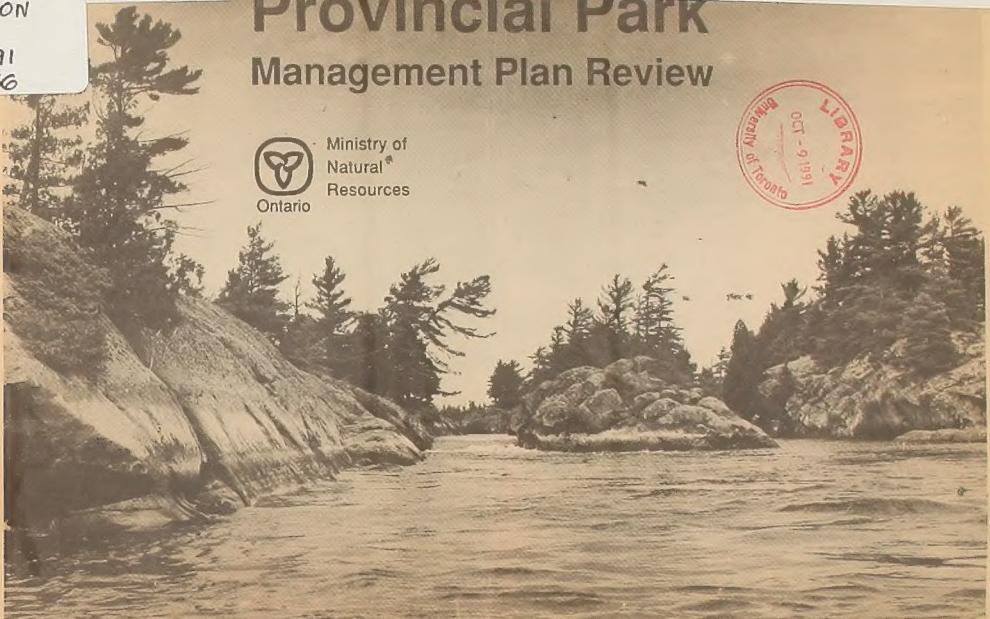
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Bad River Area - French River Delta, Quirico Tramontine

Phase I: Background Information and Issues

This is the first of two tabloids being prepared to review the French River Provincial Park Management Plan. This tabloid outlines Phase I of the review; Background Information and Issues (see figure 1).

The French River Provincial Park Management Plan sets policies for the management and development of the park's resources and facilities to best contribute to the goal and objectives of the Park.

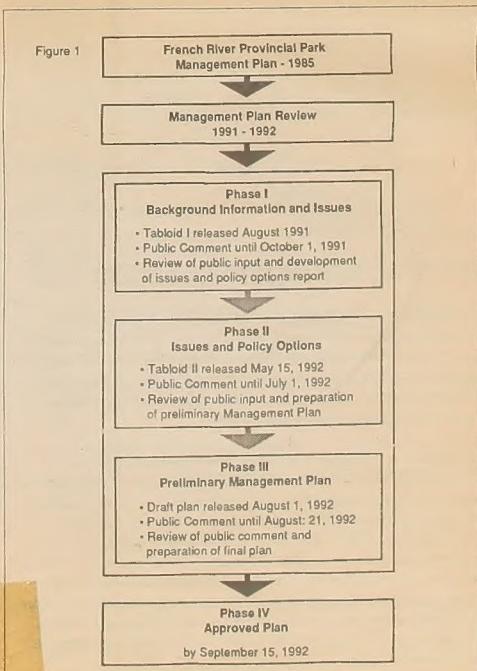
The current French River Provincial Park Plan was approved in 1985. In 1989, the then Minister of Natural Resources, Vincent G. Kerrio indicated that a review of the Management Plan would be conducted in 1992.

Why Review the 1985 Plan

- to affirm with the public that the park management and development policies reflect current resource and recreation needs and conditions;
 - to provide a status report on policies, projects and developments that have been completed or remain unresolved from the 1985 Plan;
 - to report new information on resource characteristics and use statistics;
 - to determine the issues influencing the planning, management, development and running of the park resources and facilities; and
 - to look at alternative approaches to resolving issues and select the most effective approach to park management for the next 10 years.

Your Involvement

We encourage you to comment on the information and issues in this tabloid. There will be chances for your involvement in the first three phases of the process. Your participation will ensure that the views of interested groups and individuals are considered during the Plan review. If you wish to be on a mailing list to receive future correspondence, fill out the comment sheet (back page) and mail it to us.



Park Goals and Objectives

Goal of Ontario Provincial Parks: To provide a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities, and to protect provincially significant natural, cultural, and recreational environments, in a system of Provincial Parks.

French River Provincial Park is part of the system of parks outlined in the Ontario Provincial Park Planning and Management Policies.

In Ontario there are six classes of Provincial Parks: Wilderness, Natural Environment, Nature Reserve, Waterway, Historical and Recreation. French River Provincial Park is a Waterway Park.

Waterway Park Objectives: To incorporate outstanding recreational water routes with representative natural features and historical resources to provide high quality recreational and educational experiences.



Canoists on the Lower French, Quinte Tramontin

French River Provincial Park

Located 60 kilometres south of Sudbury, the French River comprises a 110 kilometre corridor which drains from Lake Nipissing to Georgian Bay. The river is best known as an historic transportation route. Its present use is devoted primarily to water oriented recreational activities such as boating, canoeing and fishing. Although there is considerable cottage, resort and residential development in certain areas, most of the river is undeveloped. It is the natural quality of the French River,

which has remained largely unchanged through time, that provides its greatest appeal.

There are a variety of natural and cultural features found along the French River. The many scenic rapids, chutes and falls were once viewed as obstacles on the exploration and fur trade "route to the west". They are a powerful reminder of the hardships faced by men like Samuel de Champlain and Pierre de La Verendrye as evident by many authentic

artifacts recovered throughout the river. These same fast water sites are an important part of the pickerel habitat that extends out onto the shoals of Georgian Bay.

Native peoples used these same fisheries, camping on the river shores. Symbols of their culture are still in evidence at a few small pictograph and petroglyph sites.

The French River also contains many landform and vegetation features that are

representative of this area of the Canadian Shield. It is one of the few free flowing rivers that existed prior to continental glaciation. The slow advance of ice moulded intricate surface grooves and an extensive delta island mass on Georgian Bay. Many rare and representative plant species are found here as well as intriguing wildlife such as the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake, Wapiti (elk), and a large Double-crested Cormorant colony.



Current Management Plan

The French River Provincial Park Management Plan contains policies to guide the orderly development and effective management of the Park. The policies contained in this plan are based on the achievement of the goal and objectives of this waterway park. Background information on management planning of the French River was originally collected in the Provincial Waterway Parks Evaluation Study of 1976 and the French River Canadian Heritage Rivers pilot study of 1979.

The River was initially proposed as a candidate waterway provincial park in the Sudbury and North Bay District Land Use Guidelines (DLUG, 1983). The French River Candidate Provincial Waterway Park Management Plan also incorporated a proposal to designate the French River as a Canadian Heritage River. This was presented to the public in August, 1984. This was possible with the assistance of a Public Advisory Group comprising representatives of the various user groups of the river. The proposed management plan was presented to the public through extensive advertisements and mailings, open houses in the communities of Albion and Dokis, and a series of meetings with interested persons and groups. The following represents a summary of the main public concerns in 1984. A detailed account of the public comments is available in the Public Involvement Summary (March, 1985).

Public Response to the Proposed Management Plan, 1984.

A strong public feeling was expressed that Park establishment would attract increased use and aggravate the existing problems of heavy fishing pressure, garbage, vandalism, theft, environmental degradation and fires, etc. It was generally perceived that Crown land use has grown steadily over the years and was considered to be quite high. Property owners and local residents have tolerated this use, but would not like to see a major influx of new users. They feel that existing problems would worsen.

Cottageurs, residents and resort owners have a deep sense of attachment for the river. Several of them take an active role cleaning up and protecting the Crown land adjacent to their property.

The public recognizes that many of the problems associated with use will continue to occur regardless of Park establishment and would likely worsen should use continue to grow without appropriate management. Several respondents have indicated a need for an

increased Ministry role in managing the river but felt that it need not be called a provincial park.

There was considerable concern voiced about the protection and tourism development objectives which were felt to be at cross-purposes. There was a general impression that the proposed plan would actively promote increased use and tourism development on the river. The vast majority of respondents strongly favoured protection and were opposed to further development and increased use on the river.

A significant concern, raised primarily by the local residents in the Albion area is the loss of freedom that would result from use controls brought on by the Park. Many do not want to see designated campsites and are strongly opposed to paying for overnight camping. They want to continue using the river as they always have and are opposed to any restrictions on their activities. They like the river the way it is and do not want to see any changes.

Ministry of Natural Resources' Response To Public Concerns

The French River Provincial Park Management Plan, 1985, addressed these public concerns through:

- a de-emphasis of promotion, during the peak use period, with the objective of maintaining a use level on the river similar to that which presently exists;
- a public information program to educate Park users in ways to reduce impact problems;
- a public involvement program to encourage river users to assist in running the Park;
- a change in the development direction to bring it more in line with the Park protection objective by minimizing future new development on Park land;
- an emphasis on achieving, where possible, management objectives through non-regulatory means such as user education.



Highway 69 Crossing, Quinte Tramontin

Development

The following facilities were to be developed as funding permitted:

- Park sign system;
 - Posting of signs has been restricted to identifying recognized safety hazards to Park users. Presently there are two areas which have warranted special consideration to ensure public safety; a warning sign identifying the presence of a waterfall has been posted approximately 1 kilometre above Recollet Falls and "no swimming" signs have been posted in a section of the Bad River regularly used by boaters as a travel route.
- historic and nature display exhibits;
 - None at present, however, an inventory of a possible trail corridor from the Hwy. 69 picnic site to Recollet Falls is planned for 1991.
- dispersed individual campsites;
 - Will be identified to the public on the forthcoming French River Provincial Park Map.
- portages (if required);
 - Will be identified to the public on the forthcoming French River Provincial Park Map.
- possible development of French River Heritage Centre at Hwy. 69 crossing.
- Deferred at present. Funds have not been forthcoming for a larger project. Some preliminary work has been completed to organize parking, upgrade sanitary services and improve safety at the Hwy. 69 picnic area.

In addition to the accomplishments listed above, the following projects have been undertaken:

- Annual maintenance to the Park work centre located below Dallas Rapids.
- A Park Emergency Plan has been developed to provide direction in emergency situations and identifies best routes/access to various portions of the river, and knowledgeable persons who could assist (ie: guides)
- Cleanup at Keystone dump has been performed, by bulldozer, at least three times per year. Additional work at the site has been performed by summer work crews on a demand basis.
- In 1989 a survey of colonial nesting birds was conducted in the French River delta area by the Canadian Wildlife Service and the Ministry of Natural Resources.
- An inventory of active heronries and osprey and eagle nesting sites was conducted by the Ministry of Natural Resources in 1990.
- Aerial surveys of Moose populations were conducted in 1986, 1988, and 1990.
- The status of the Elk herd in the delta region was assessed in 1989 and again in 1990.
- The Lamprey Control Unit conducted lampricide treatments at the mouth of the River in 1989 and 1991.

1985 Management Plan Implementation Record

The 1985 Master Plan outlined how French River Provincial Park was to be managed and developed. The plan included a list of developments and policies to be implemented as funds and priorities permitted. Following is a summary of policies and developments which were identified at that time and their current status.

Park Operating Plan

The management plan called for the preparation of a Park operating plan to provide specific direction on Park operations.

An approved Park Operating Plan was completed in 1987 with the help of an advisory group of representatives from various user groups on the river (the French River Joint Management Committee).

members:

Marvin Smith - MNR - Chairman
 Pete Rysdale - French River Resorts
 George Kelk - Key Harbour, Bratand Island
 Claude Chene - MNR - Park Superintendent
 Mike Palmer - French River Delta
 John Craig - Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
 Headly Williams - Lower French River
 Paul Lemieux - Citizens of Area (Alban)
 Len Paul - Upper French River
 Roger Restoule - Dokis Indian Reserve
 Bob O'Hara - Central French River
 Gail Oliver - Ontario Trappers Association
 Paul Graham - Canoe Ontario



Recollet Falls, Quinte Tramontin

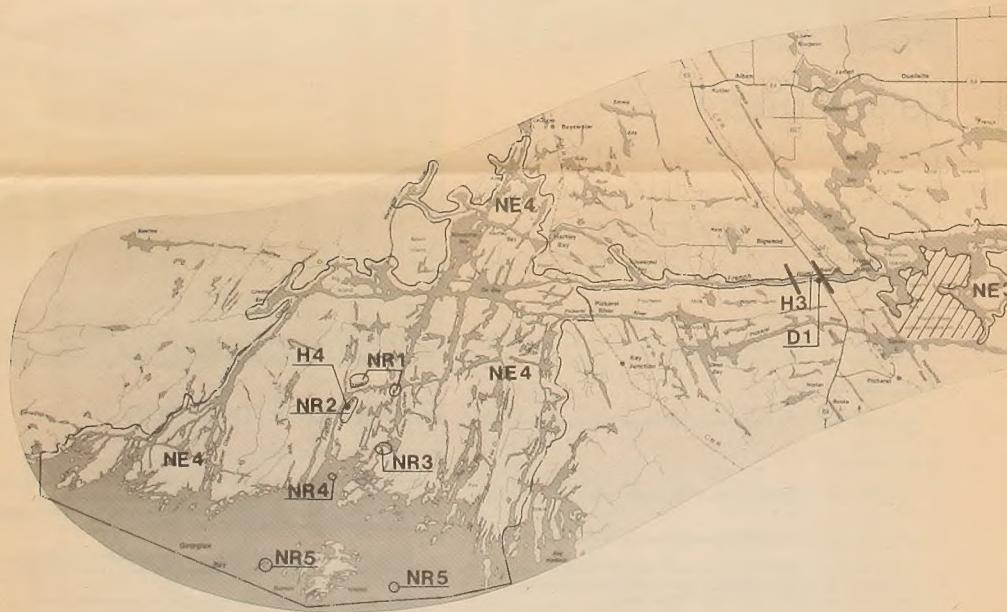
Resource Protection

Resource protection was to involve:

- site protection of significant park features. These include: historic and archaeological sites such as the Copanoring townsite, pictographs and petroglyphs; Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake habitat; Double-crested Cormorant nesting sites; Virginia Chainfern wetlands; and the habitat of several rare plant species;
- Within the five Nature Reserve and four Historical zones operations have ensured that the values concerned were not inadvertently threatened by Park users.
- input to the Sudbury and North Bay District fisheries management plans;
- The Community Fisheries Involvement Program (CFIP) has assisted in efforts to rehabilitate the pickerel fishery through stocking and habitat improvements since 1984.
- A survey to evaluate sport fishing effort and success (creel census) was conducted in the Dry Pine Bay area in 1986.
- Improvements to the pickerel spawning sites at Meshaw Falls were carried out in 1986 under the CFIP program.
- Rehabilitation work involving pickerel spawning bed improvements and channel stabilization were carried out at Stoney Rapids in 1990. This was a joint project involving the Federal Government, the Provincial Government and the French River Resorts Association
- resource inventory studies of earth and life science and cultural heritage.
- The French River Canadian Heritage Waterway Pilot Study was completed in 1980. As part of this study natural and historical resources were identified and evaluated for significance.
- Noble 1990 reviewed the resource values' representation on a site district basis.
- A field reconnaissance of existing Nature Reserve sites was conducted in June 1991 to verify the integrity of these areas and to update existing records.

French River Provincial Park

Boundary and Zoning





Legend

- [Wavy Line] Park Boundary
- [Solid Line] Zone Boundary
- [Box with NE4] Zone Designation
- [Hatched Pattern] Indian Reserve

Note:

Patents, Leases, Licences of Occupation and Land Use Permits are not included in the park and are not shown on this map.

Client Services

Client services were to include:

- an information program for Park visitors which would include the preparation of a Park map;

- A Park map is currently under development and is scheduled for completion in 1991.

- a recreation management program consisting of:

- user survey and public relations;

- Public relations efforts by Park staff have been carried out on a routine basis with the objective of informing users about management activities, changes, regulations and any other newsworthy items.

- An aerial user survey conducted in 1985 provided a rough estimate of campsite occupation levels and helped direct clean up efforts. Park staff now obtain this information through their regular presence on the river and the survey has not been repeated.

- Although an informal user survey has been conducted regularly by Park staff as part of their normal public relations efforts, a formalized questionnaire was developed for the 1991 operating season and is now in use.

- campsite inventory;

- Approximately 300 campsites have been identified and inventoried so far. These will be outlined in the forthcoming French River Provincial Park Map.

- 12 portages have been identified and inventoried so far. These will be outlined in the forthcoming French River Provincial Park Map.

- campsite and portage maintenance;

- Sanitation monitoring and cleanup of campsites, shore lunch areas and portage trails is an ongoing process carried out on a rotating basis unless otherwise warranted.

- A garbage drop-off station has been established since 1988 at Harley Bay to encourage campers to bring their refuse out with them.

- A new dock was constructed at the Dead Island picnic area in 1989.

- An inventory of portage trails has been completed and will be published as part of the French River Provincial Park Map.



Camp Site, Quinte Tramontin

- Two wooden tramways permit boaters to bypass potentially dangerous sections of the river. Both facilities have been inspected annually for structural integrity. The tramway around Recollet Falls is being maintained with wood stain on an annual basis. The Bass Creek Tramway was totally rebuilt during the 1991 operating season.

- The portage trail at Dallas Rapids has been maintained annually.

- Recollet Trail to Recollet Falls, although unsigned, has been maintained annually.

- and enforcement.

- Enforcement of Park regulations has been primarily accomplished through user education. A conservation officer and a deputy conservation officer have been assigned to the area.

- the possible establishment of a co-operative association to assist the Ministry in the management of the river

- Interested parties have been identified and approached. At present a board of Directors has been established and the incorporation of the group is in progress.

- encouraging the undertaking of a study to determine the feasibility of developing the proposed French River Heritage Centre.

- Deferred at present.



Bass Creek Tramway, Quinte Tramontin



Georgian Bay / Bad River, Quinte Tramontin

Issues

Several issues regarding French River Provincial Park's development and management policies have arisen since the 1985 Master Plan. Following is a statement and brief description of each issue. Your views regarding these or other issues and suggestions on how they may be resolved are welcomed and will be useful in the preparation of the next tabloid; Phase II: Issues and Policy Options, and developing approaches to managing the Park.



Swimming Prohibited in Bad River Rapids, Mike Hall

Development of Park Regulations

Issue:

Enforcement of No Swimming Policy

The safety hazard associated with swimming in the Bad River Rapids prompted the posting of "no swimming" signs in this area. Despite these signs swimmers continue to endanger themselves and boaters by their actions. Park staff are currently unable to monitor and enforce the ban on swimming in the Bad River Rapids.

Issue: House Boats

The increased use of house boats by recreationists has raised questions over their potential to adversely affect the French River. Concerns common to the use of these craft include the disposal of "grey water" by flushing directly into the waterway and the monopolizing of prime fishing areas. Although most users of house boats would not knowingly abuse, the potential for damage warrants the development of policies to regulate the

presence and use of house boats within the Park.

Issue:

Personal Watercraft

Jet Ski's and similar personal watercraft, have enjoyed increased popularity in recent years. Designed to be fast and highly maneuverable their use could result in hazardous situations with other boaters in narrow channels where visibility is restricted. The possibility of

Fisheries and Wildlife Management

Issue:

Commercial Trapping

Policies within the 1985 Management Plan stated that trapping activities would be permitted within the Park. In 1988 the provincial government announced a new Parks Policy which excluded commercial trapping within the Park boundaries. The Minister of Natural Resources, of that time, delayed implementation of the new Provincial Parks Policy with respect to trapping until after the 1992 Management Plan Review was completed. Following the review process, a 21 year phase-out of commercial trapping within the Park will begin.



House Boat on the Lower French River, Quinte Tramontin



Keystone Dump, Quinte Tramontin

Development of Park Facilities

Issue: Refuse Collection Stations

To avoid garbage accumulation Park users are encouraged to refrain from littering and to "carry out" their garbage. It has been suggested that a total of six collecting stations be established at key locations within the Park. Such facilities, it is believed, would encourage a positive environmental ethic and reduce littering in the Park. At present one such collection station is maintained at Hartley Bay Marina.

Issue: Keystone Waste Disposal Site

Accumulations at the Keystone Waste Disposal Site are nearing the capacity of this facility. The closure of this facility and development of a new disposal site is under active review by the Ministry.

Issue: Little French Access Point

An access point on the Little French has been established. It will be necessary to define the regulations for this area in the revised management plan. The control of length of stay is one of the primary concerns.

Proposed Developments

Issue: Disposition of Federal French River Dams

The Federal Government has expressed the intention of relinquishing responsibility for dams located along the French River. The disposition of these facilities is controversial and has not been resolved.

Issue: Proposed Dokis Small Hydroelectric Development

The Dokis Indian Reserve has put forward a proposal to develop a hydroelectric facility at one of the existing dam sites adjacent to the Park. The development of such a facility within the Park is contrary to the existing Management Plan and Provincial Park Policy.

Issue: Ontario Hydro Power Line Development

Ontario Hydro is proposing to develop a power line from Toronto to Hammer. Options for the proposed line would enlarge the existing facility and increase its visual impact to Park users.



Chaudier Dam, Quinte Tramontin

Issue: Voyageur Waterway

The Voyageur Waterway Group from North Bay has expressed an interest in the development of a pleasure boat waterway to link Lake Nipissing to Georgian Bay. If such a development occurred it would impact on natural, historic and recreational features of the Park. This would be incompatible with the existing Management Plan.

Issue: Highway 69 Twinning

Concerns for safety and a desire to enhance road access between Sudbury and southern Ontario have led interest groups to advocate the upgrading of Highway 69 from two lanes to four. If the highway were to be upgraded, the expansion would encroach on Park lands.

Management and Provincial Policy Concerns

Issue: Changes to Parks Policy Legislation

Public consultation is an important part in the development or revision of a park management plan. The possibility that decisions made in the provincial cabinet can alter management decisions developed through public consultation is a source of concern for both park managers and park users.

Issue: Park Funding

The French River Joint Management Committee has expressed concern about the inability to achieve goals established in the Park Operating Plan. Insufficient funding was considered to be the limiting factor affecting implementation of the Operating Plan.

Issue: Use Of Park By Natives

There is a need to define the rights and privileges of native Canadians within the Park boundaries.

Your Comments Please

You are invited to comment on how the park is managed and the issues. Interested parties are encouraged to recommend potential solutions to these issues and others. From your comments and suggestions, significant issues will be identified and a series of policy options to resolve the issues will be prepared. These options will be released for public review in a second tabloid, Phase II: Issues and Policy Options, May 15, 1992.

This paper is being sent to all property owners and resource users within and adjacent to the park, as well as to other interested individuals and groups. Further newsletters, documents and management plans will be sent to the same mailing list.

Please use this form for your comments, suggestions or questions concerning this phase of the French River Provincial Park Management Plan Review. Additional paper can be attached if necessary.

Please direct all questions and comments to:

Ministry of Natural Resources
French River Provincial Park Management Plan Review
Attention: Marvin Smith
Sudbury District Office
P.O. Box 3500
Station "A"
Sudbury, Ontario
P3A 4S2

Please check the appropriate box:

- correct my address
- add me to your mailing list
- remove me from your mailing list
- send me an additional copy of the tabloid
- send me a french copy of the tabloid
(veillez me faire parvenir une copie du tableau)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____

Prov./State: _____

Country: _____

Postal Code/Zip Code: _____

Comment Deadline - October 1, 1991

Signature: _____

Date: _____

French River Provincial Park Management Plan Review



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The French River is a special Provincial Park. It has a special blend of scenic wilderness and the convenience of modern commercial accommodation. 105 km (65 mi) of interconnecting lakes and gorges, rapids and swifts provide a wide variety of water routes, scenery and recreational activities.

This historic transportation route has remained relatively undisturbed through time. The shoreline you see is the same as

Champlain saw it in 1615. Today though, motorboats and canoes travel the waterway, lodges and cottages dot the landscape and anglers and hunters enjoy their sport. The river is a huge and diverse resource enjoyed by all who are fortunate to be a part of it.

French River Provincial Park is protected to ensure this remarkable landscape is available for the benefit of present and future generations.



Phase II: Issues and Policy Options

Under each issue is a summary of the 1985 Park Policy; an information update since the 1985 Plan; public comments received during Phase I; options considered; and a recommended option. In some areas, the recommended option does not coincide with the most popular public choice. The reasons for this are that a number of factors affect the recommendations made by the planning team, including: public input, Provincial Park Policies, Park goals and objectives (including tourism, protection and resource products), zoning, and the needs of a variety of Park users.

The Park cannot be all things to all people. French River Provincial Park covers a large land base and in some cases it is necessary to choose one of several management options in order to resolve conflicting demands on the Park's resources.

We welcome your comments concerning these options. A comment sheet is located on the back page.

Due to the Plan Review Schedule, the last date that comments regarding Phase II can be accepted is July 31, 1992.

French River Management

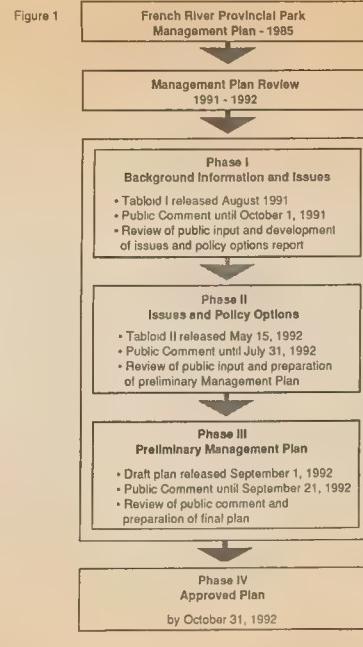
The French River is managed differently from other parks due to its newness, size and the diversity of people using the river.

Policy statements concerning uses in the Park are outlined in a Park Master Plan, now called a Management Plan, a document which sets policies for the management and development of the Park's resources and facilities, to best contribute to the goal and objectives of the Park.

The current Master Plan for French River Provincial Park was approved in 1985 following a detailed planning exercise. To ensure that park management plans keep pace with changing needs, plan reviews are undertaken every 5 years, or as the need arises. The present review of the 1985 Park Plan began during the summer of 1991. We are now in Phase II of four phases to be completed by the fall of 1992. Figure 1 outlines the plan schedule.

Why Review the 1985 Plan

- to reconfirm with the public that the park management and development policies reflect current resource and recreation needs and conditions;
- to provide a status report on policies, projects and developments that have been completed or remain unresolved from the 1985 Plan;
- to report new information on resource characteristics and use statistics;
- to determine the issues influencing the planning, management, development and running of the park resources and facilities; and
- to look at alternative approaches to resolving issues and select the most effective approach to park management for the next 10 years.



Your Opinion is Important!

Public input is an important component of the plan review. It provides the opportunity for Park users and interest groups to have input into park management and development. During Phase I a tabloid containing background information and a summary of the Park issues was released. This tabloid was available at openhouses conducted in August of 1991 and was mailed to property owners and resource owners within and adjacent to the Park, as well as to individuals, businesses and interest groups. With the first tabloid the Ministry of Natural Resources received 56 responses, most addressing more than one issue. These comments were taken into consideration when developing options to the issues as presented in this tabloid.

Summary of public response to tabloid and open house meetings.

Number of tabloids mailed out.....	1,100
Number of persons (approx.) attending open house meetings	
Alban (August 25, 1991).....	100
Dokis (August 31, 1991).....	45
Number of responses mailed in.....	56
Total number of comments	210

Comments on issues were categorized into the 5 sections outlined in the first tabloid. An additional category contains comments not specific to any of the outlined sections. Respondents tended to focus on issues identified by the tabloid or which had a direct effect on their enjoyment of the Park.

Development of Park Regulations.....	74 comments
Development of Park Facilities.....	35 comments
Fisheries and Wildlife Management	21 comments
Proposed Developments.....	47 comments
Management and Provincial Policy Concerns	20 comments
Other.....	13 comments

Issues addressed here include those raised by Ministry of Natural Resources staff (commercial development, refuse collection stations and development of regulations) as well as issues identified by the public during Phase I.

The Ministry of Natural Resources has formed a park planning team involving members from Parks, Fish and Wildlife, Forest Management and Planning.

We encourage you to comment on the issues and policy options presented in this tabloid. Your participation will ensure that your views are considered during the plan review. The results of this plan review will set the course for the management of the Park for the next 10 years. If you wish to be on a mailing list to receive future correspondence, please fill out the comment sheet (back page) and mail it to us. Copies of the first tabloid are still available (see comment sheet).

Resource Management

Water

Hydroelectric Development: Dokis Proposal

Public Comments:

- Ten comments were received.
 • 4 comments supported the proposal
 • 3 comments opposed
 • 3 comments opposed proposal if facility were within the park boundary (if outside, OK)

1989 Provincial Parks Policy:

The development of a hydroelectric facility is contrary to policy: "No new major hydro-electric developments will be permitted in any park".

Information Update:

The Dokis Indian Reserve has put forward proposals, conditional to acquisition of federal dam properties, to develop a hydroelectric facility. Possible facility locations border the Park and the options being considered by the Reserve would have an impact on Park Lands.

The proposed generating facility would not adversely affect flow requirements for the French River.

Engineering design options exist that would permit development of a hydroelectric facility while protecting the aesthetic values of the natural environment.

The impact of development options will be assessed by the French River Joint Management Committee with the assistance of MNR engineering staff.

Options Considered:

- 1) Do not permit development to occur.
 - hydroelectric development is not consistent with Provincial Parks Policy and is contrary to the objectives of the Park
- 2) Permit development to occur outside of Park.
 - adjust Park boundary to exclude the affected area provided development engineers can acceptably mitigate identified concerns to preserve the Park goals and objectives (Protection, Tourism, Recreation and Heritage Appreciation)

Suggested Option:

Option #2. Opposition to hydroelectric facility development on the basis of Provincial Parks Policy may be unreasonable since the impact to the Park would be minimal and economic benefits to the Dokis Indian Reserve significant.

The Joint Management Committee supports, in principle, the proposed facility and suggests that amending the Park boundary to exclude the development site would satisfy Park Policy concerns and permit the project to proceed.

A deregulation of the affected area would be recommended to the minister after the development option is selected provided it, in the judgement of the Joint Management Committee, meets the requirements indicated in option 2.

Voyageur Waterway: Proposed Development

Public Comments:

- 21 comments opposed to the development of a Voyageur Waterway.

1985 Park Policy:

The 1985 Management Plan mentions the existence of this proposal but makes no commitments with regards to it (section 3.2).

Information Update:

During the preparation of the 1985 Management Plan interest in the development of a pleasure boat waterway from Lake Nipissing to Georgian Bay was expressed by the Voyageur Waterway Group of North Bay.

A pleasure boat waterway would require various channel improvements and the development of at least four locks or marine railways to permit boats to bypass existing falls and rapids.

Since Plan approval, support for the pleasure boat waterway has diminished and, at present, the Ministry is not aware of any active interest.

Joint Management Committee response:

Development of a pleasure boat waterway from Lake Nipissing to Georgian Bay would be contrary to the Park's goal of protecting the River's outstanding landscape, natural features, and cultural resources. The Committee recommends that references to this proposal be removed from the Management Plan.

French River Dams: Federal Disposition

Public Comments:

- Five comments were received.
 • prefer to have the dams under government control to avoid abuse
 • province should take them over and lock them open - natural fluctuations would be preferable
 • responsibility should be turned over to the Water Management Board
 • should be placed under one authority
 • don't let them dump them on you

1985 Park Policy:

The 1985 management plan has no provisions to deal with the disposition of these facilities.

Information Update:

The Federal Government has expressed the intention of relinquishing responsibility for dams located along the French River.

No decision has been announced concerning the disposition of these facilities.

Joint Management Committee response:

Disposition of the dams will be a federal decision beyond the control of the Joint Management Committee. The committee will, however, encourage the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Federal Government to negotiate an agreement for operation of the watershed with the MNR as leading agency.

Land

Little French Access Site: Camping

Public Comments:

One comment received.

- suggest that site be used for access and parking and that camping not be allowed

1985 Park Policy:

Car camping use of the Little French River access point will be monitored and managed as required to ensure proper use of the site with priority given to its boat access function (section 4.2).

Information Update:

The Little French River access has traditionally been a public point of entry to the French River. In previous years unrestricted car camping resulted in overcrowding and the monopolizing of parking sites.

In 1991 a host/hostess program was implemented, on a trial basis, to regulate numbers of campers and duration of stay. At the conclusion of the 1991 season the program was considered a success. Host/hostess positions will be awarded to volunteers on an annual basis.

The access will be examined by a landscape architect to confirm the site's suitability for overnight camping and establish acceptable user capacities. The architect will also redesign the facility to ensure adequate space is allocated for parking and day-use activities.

Options Considered:

- 1) Permit camping (subject to site approval by landscape architect).
 - conditional on continued success of host/hostess program
 - no user fee
- 2) Permit camping (subject to site approval by landscape architect).
 - Park staff to regulate use
 - no user fee
- 3) As in #1 (subject to site approval by landscape architect) but permit:
 - private contractor to maintain facility under a Land User Permit (LUP)
 - user fees
- 4) Prohibit camping.
 - allow day-use only
 - no user fee

Suggested Option:

Option #1. If approved by the landscape architect, car camping would be allowed to continue as long as the site is monitored to avoid user conflicts. Commercial supervision, with user fees, is contrary to existing policy and funding limitations prohibit Park staff from adequately monitoring the site. The host/hostess volunteer program is the preferred method of regulating camper use. If the volunteer program fails, prohibiting overnight camping while permitting day use (option #4) is seen to be the only acceptable alternative.

Electrification of Upper French: Proposed Development

Public Comments:

Two comments were received.

- both opposed to electrification of the upper French R., dishwashers and laundry washing machines would produce effluent, light pollution would detract from night sky clarity

1985 Park Policy:

The management Plan has no policy regarding expansion of electrical services.

Information Update:

This issue was not identified prior to publication of the first tabloid (Phase I: Background Information and Issues). Ministry staff became aware of its existence during the openhouse meeting at Dokis where an attempt to solicit support for the concept was made.

Options Considered:

- 1) Permit development.
 - electrical power is already available to cottagers in the form of gas-powered generators
 - submerged cables would have little impact on the Park
- 2) Do not allow development.
 - commercial electricity would change present land use pattern (encourage year-round use)

Suggested Option:

Option #1. Commercial electrical facilities could provide interested cottagers an environmentally friendly alternative to gas powered generators. Applications for installation of electrical utilities would be reviewed by the Joint Management Committee to ensure the visual/aesthetic impact to the river is minimal.

Highway 59: Future Twinning

Public Comments:

Two comments were received.

- both felt the development was inevitable but suggested that such a development was not likely to occur prior to the next management plan review (in 5 years) and should not be considered an issue at this time.

1985 Park Policy:

Expansion of existing road crossings of the French River may be permitted to meet essential public service needs. Before disposing of Park lands for these purposes the Ministry of Natural Resources will work closely with proponents to ensure that:

- all reasonable alternatives have been considered;
- wherever possible, new crossings are located next to existing crossings of the same type;
- impacts on Park heritage values and on the river's scenic and unspoiled quality are minimized (section 3.3.1).

Information Update:

Concerns for safety and a desire to enhance road access between Sudbury and southern Ontario have led interest groups to advocate the upgrading of Highway 69 from two lanes to four.

The Joint Management Committee has requested the Ministry of Transport to notify it of any development plans which would affect the Park.

Joint Management Committee response:

The 1985 Management Plan provides for the expansion of road crossings essential to public service needs. If the Ministry of Transport expresses the intention to expand the existing roadway, working with the planning team will provide the best opportunity to advise and direct the crossing site to minimize its impact to the Park.

Access Roads: Development Prohibited

Public Comments:

One comment received.

- some cottagers are building access roads across Crown land, this should not be permitted

1985 Park Policy:

No new roads will be developed in the Park (section 3.3.1).

Information Update:

Development of access roads have been permitted to landowners wishing to access their properties providing such roads are not detrimental to the Park's environment and no public access is created.

Options Considered:

- 1) Do not permit development of access roads.
- 2) Allow development of access roads.

Suggested Option:

Option #1. Prohibiting increased road access on Park land is considered an acceptable method to help maintain the natural landscape of the French River.

Ontario Hydro: New Power Line Crossing

Public Comments:

Three comments received.

- crossing should be as aesthetically pleasing as possible, suggest an underground crossing with new and existing lines together
- allow but minimize impact, highway corridor could be used by Ontario Hydro as well (reroute existing lines)
- not opposed if they cross in same place as existing lines

1985 Park Policy:

Expansion of existing road, rail, and utility line crossings of the French River may be permitted to meet essential public service needs. Before disposing of Park lands for these purposes the Ministry of Natural Resources will work closely with proponents to ensure that:

- all reasonable alternatives have been considered;
- wherever possible, new crossings are located next to existing crossings of the same type;
- impacts on Park heritage values and on the river's scenic and unspoiled quality are minimized (section 3.3.1).

Information Update:

Ontario Hydro is proposing to develop a power line from Toronto to Hammer. The location and method by which this facility will cross the French River is currently under study by Ontario Hydro.

The Joint Management Committee is working with the Ontario Hydro planning team to identify acceptable crossing sites.

Joint Management Committee response:

The 1985 Management Plan provides for the expansion of utility line crossings essential to public service needs. Working with the Ontario Hydro planning team will provide the best opportunity to advise and direct crossing sites to minimize impact to the Park.

Flora

Forest Fires: Development of Fire Management Plan**MNR Comment:**

The Ministry's Fire Operations Manager has suggested that the Management Plan and Park Operating Plan be updated to address forest fire management considerations. Fire management considerations include identification of high fire risk areas, areas which are susceptible to damage from fire or fire suppression, and areas where wildfire and prescribed burning could be used to benefit existing and developing ecosystems.

1985 Park Policy:

The Ministry will continue to suppress all wildfires in the Park and on adjacent land (section 3.1.1).

Information Update:

The Fire Operations Section within the MNR is capable of assisting in the development of a comprehensive fire management component for the Park Operating Plan.

Joint Management Committee response:

The Joint Management Committee acknowledges the wisdom of being prepared for such an eventuality as forest fires and supports the development of a Fire Management Plan for the Park.

Park Boundary: Possible Expansion**MNR Comment:**

The unit forester for Eighteen Mile Island has identified Crown land areas which contain exceptional examples of plant communities representative of the French River area. As all of the sites are partially within the Park already, one method of ensuring their protection would be to amend the existing Park boundary to totally include them.

1985 Park Policy:

The boundary of the Park includes a 200 metre shoreline strip on both sides of the river with the exception of Burnt island where it is 120 m. All waters and islands in between are included. It extends from Lake Nipissing along the Little French River and Main Channel to include the mouth area and the Bustard Islands in Georgian Bay. Privately owned land surrounded by the Park boundary is not included in the Park (section 2.4).

The 1985 Management Plan permits acquisition of patent lands for resource protection purposes, provided they are offered for sale and funding permits, it does not address the acquisition of Crown lands (section 3.3).

Information Update:

The sites have yet to be assessed with respect to their uniqueness and representational potential.

The Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest Program (ANSI) could provide an alternative method for preserving significant natural areas without amending the Park boundary.

Options Considered:

- 1) Make no boundary changes.
 - other programs exist to protect significant natural areas
- 2) Permit changes to Park boundary.
 - if changes contribute specific heritage values not already contained within Park

Suggested Option:

Option #1. Park's present size is sufficient to fulfill its mandate and the existence of a program designed specifically to protect significant natural areas makes amending the existing Park boundary unnecessary.

Fauna

French River Fishery: Rehabilitation Efforts**Public Comments:**

Several comments were made suggesting that there has been a reduction in the quality of the pickerel fishery due to overfishing. The following suggestions for reducing fishing pressure were submitted:

- reduce duration of fishing season;
- establish a fishing reserve from the Crooked down to the Jamesons for a few years;
- delta boundary for commercial fishing should be moved further out;
- ban night fishing;
- institute slot sizes for pickerel;
- reduce allowable limit.

1985 Park Policy:

The Management Plan promoted a special emphasis on monitoring and managing the French River fishery to maintain and enhance the health of the fishery and the quality of angling recreation. Specific management direction was to be provided in the Sudbury District Fisheries Management Plan (section 3.1.3).

Information Update:

The Sudbury District Fisheries Management Plan (1990) supports the consensus that the French River is over-exploited and that some habitat problems exist. The Plan addresses perceived problems and outlines management options to improve the French River fishery. Some management options have been or are being implemented (creel census, stocking, spawning bed rehabilitation, etc.) while others, such as establishing fish sanctuaries, which requires a public review process, are pending.

Joint Management Committee response:

It is the Management Committee's position that the Sudbury District Fisheries Management Plan remains the proper vehicle for managing the French River's Fisheries and that the status of the French River's fishery is not an issue which can be addressed by this review process.

Massasauga Rattlesnake: Nature Reserve Size**Public Comments:**

- 1 comment received.
 • massasauga rattlesnake is not sufficiently protected, the size of the nature reserve (6 hectares) is inadequate and should be enlarged

1985 Park Policy:

The priority for nature reserve zones is protection, research and heritage protection. Research proposals for nature reserves will be reviewed through MNR policy and guidelines. Based on research findings, nature reserve zoning may be revised in plan review (section 2.5.2).

Information Update:

The Game and Fish Act prohibits hunting of designated reptiles without a licence. The massasauga rattlesnake has been identified as a reptile under the Game and Fish Act and, at present, there are no licences available which would permit the wilful destruction of these snakes.

Remoteness of habitat and a non-aggressive nature have permitted massasauga rattlesnakes to remain relatively undisturbed by Park users.

The Park map recently published cautions visitors that these snakes occur within the Park and provides safety and first aid information.

Options Considered:

- 1) Reassess reserve size with respect to habitat requirements and enlarge if warranted.
- 2) Maintain nature reserve as is.
 - reserve status permits management in this area to be distinct from other areas of the Park eg. no camping
- 3) Remove nature reserve status.
 - Since the massasauga rattlesnake is legally protected under the Game and Fish Act, there is no need for a nature reserve for their protection. The present situation may mislead Park users to assume that massasauga rattlesnakes are not protected in the rest of the Park.

Suggested Option:

Option #2. The legal protection afforded to the massasauga rattlesnake implies that reassessing the nature reserve's size for protection purposes is unnecessary. Retaining reserve status, however, recognizes the importance of this species and permits management options to be implemented which would not pertain to the rest of the Park.

Commercial Trapping: Phase Out

Public Comments:

Nine comments received.

- 3 comments agree with phase out of trapping
- 6 comments opposed to phase out of trapping

1985 Park Policy:

The 1985 Management Plan stated that trapping would be permitted throughout the entire Park (section 3.1.2).

Information Update:

In 1988 the provincial government announced a new Parks Policy which excluded commercial trapping within Provincial Park boundaries.

In response to public opposition to the decision, the Minister of Natural Resources, of that time, agreed to delay implementation of the new Policy in French River Provincial Park until after the 1992 Management Plan Review was completed.

During the current review process a formal request was initiated asking that commercial trapping be allowed to continue within the Park as a non-conforming use. If the request is unsuccessful a 21 year phase-out of commercial trapping will begin at the completion of this management plan review.

Joint Management Committee response:

The Joint Management Committee believes that the decision to exclude commercial trapping from Provincial Parks is beyond the authority of this review process to affect.

Recreation Management

Houseboats: Regulations

Public Comments:

Nineteen comments were received.

- 3 comments were in favour of houseboats within the park
- 7 comments expressed the opinion that they be banned from the Park
- 9 comments suggested that regulations be established

1985 Park Policy:

The 1985 Management Plan does not contain a provision to regulate houseboat use.

Information Update:

Increased use of houseboats by recreationists has raised questions over their potential to adversely affect the French River. Concerns are focused on the potential for monopolizing of prime fishing areas and the environmental degradation caused by disposal of 'grey water' directly into the waterway.

The Park operating plan provides for a 16 day maximum length of stay at a camping site and permits campsites to be closed if deemed necessary.

Although permitted at present, an amendment to Regulation 305 of the Environmental Protection Act will prohibit the discharge of "grey water" from newly produced and commercial watercraft by 1993.

Options Considered:

- 1) Do not permit houseboats within the Park.
- 2) Establish regulations.
 - restrictions might include:
 - sections of the Park where they may operate,
 - number of boats permitted,
 - no commercial outfitters within the Park
- 3) Do not establish regulations.
 - existing Park regulations in conjunction with provincial boating regulations are capable of addressing the identified concerns

Suggested Option:

Option #2. The fact that many of the larger boats which traditionally frequent the waterway are capable of the same misuses attributed to houseboats combined with the fact that existing regulations allow for control of overnight camping and will prohibit dumping of waste water into the river suggests that banning houseboats would be unjustifiable.

The potential exists, however, for additional user pressure if rental watercraft equipped with holding tanks and sleeping facilities, such as houseboats, become available within the Park. The Joint Management Committee suggests that this type of commercial enterprise be prohibited within the Park's boundaries in order to avoid a possible future conflict with the goals and objectives of the Park.

Information Update:

Since development of the French River Management Plan, a safety hazard at the Bad River Rapids of the delta region has become increasingly apparent. Near accidents have been reported where swimmers have been utilizing narrow channels necessary to boat traffic.

The potential for injury prompted posting of "no swimming" signs in this area in 1991. In spite of this action the problem persists. Park staff are currently unable to monitor and enforce the ban.

Options Considered:

- 1) Enforce no swimming policy with warnings and/or fines to offenders.
 - would solve the problem
 - implementation would require a continuous MNR presence in the delta region
- 2) Allow situation to remain as is: ie. allow signs to remain but do not attempt to enforce the ban.
 - current situation
- 3) Replace "No Swimming" signs with "Swimming Hazard/Boating Hazard" signs which identify the conflict between boaters and swimmers.
 - would identify a potential hazard to persons unfamiliar with the area but would not prohibit swimming

Suggested Option:

Option #3. Staffing and funding priorities make it impractical to enforce a regulation prohibiting swimming in the Bad River Area. Allowing the current situation to continue has raised concerns that the lack of enforcement of an apparent regulation may lead to disregard of other Park regulations. Identifying the potential for conflict between boaters and swimmers represents the most logical alternative.

Personal Watercraft: Regulations

Public Comments:

Seventeen comments were received.

- 1 comment in favour of regulations
- 10 comments opposed to their use in the Park
- 6 comments indicated that regulations governing the use of these craft should be established

1985 Park Policy:

The 1985 Management Plan does not contain a provision to regulate personal watercraft.

Information Update:

Jet Skis and similar personal watercraft, have enjoyed increased popularity in recent years. Designed to be fast and highly maneuverable there is a perception that their use could result in hazardous situations with other boaters in narrow channels where visibility is restricted.

Options Considered:

- 1) Prohibit use of personal watercraft within the Park.
- 2) Designate areas within Park where these craft may or may not be used.
 - prohibit in areas where potential for conflicts with others is high (narrow channels)
- 3) Educate Park users and establish warning signs at potentially hazardous areas.

Suggested Option:

Option #3. Hazardous boating situations are more likely to be a result of irresponsible or careless handling than they are related to the type of watercraft involved. Since the problem is not exclusive to personal watercraft, user education along with the establishment of signs identifying specific water hazard areas is the least restrictive alternative for dealing with this problem.

Bad River Rapids: No Swimming Policy

Public Comments:

Four comments were received.

- 2 comments favoured enforcement of the policy
- 2 comments felt policy was restrictive and unnecessary

1985 Park Policy:

The 1985 Management Plan does not contain a provision to regulate recreational swimming.

Snowmobiling: Regulations

Public Comments:

Two comments were received concerning snowmobiling in the Park.

- one comment in favour of snowmobiling
- one comment opposed development of trails and stated that trails "would be a waste of time and money" and "hazardous to anyone who doesn't know the area well"

1985 Park Policy:

The 1985 Management Plan identifies snowmobiling as an acceptable recreational activity within the Park (section 2.1) but does not contain a provision for regulating development of trails.

Information Update:

Increased interest in recreational snowmobiling and development of snowmobile trails may require the development of policies to control and regulate this activity within the Park. There have been no identified user conflicts with snowmobilers currently using the Park.

Options Considered:

- 1) Prohibit development of a trail system.
- 2) Permit development.
 - review each proposal to ensure integrity of the Park is protected.

Suggested Option:

Option #2. Snowmobiling is considered an acceptable traditional use along the French River and represents a practical means of access by cottagers during winter months. Applications to develop snowmobile trails within the Park would be dealt with on case by case basis and permitted only where their development does not conflict with Park objectives.

Boating: Regulations

Public Comments:

Several comments were received concerning boating in the Park.

- establish and post speed restrictions
- restrict motor size to a maximum of 25 horsepower for transient boaters (no size restrictions to residents and resort guests)
- ban the use of power boats within the park

1985 Park Policy:

The Management Plan does not place any restrictions on boating (boat size, engine horsepower, speed, etc.).

Information Update:

The majority of Park users practice common sense in operating watercraft. Accident occurrence and complaints concerning misuse of boats are rare.

Federal boating regulations apply within the Park.

Options Considered:

- 1) No Park restrictions on boating.
 - Park users have expressed opposition to imposed restrictions on use of the river
 - an application for site-specific federal boating regulations (eg. speed limits) would be more appropriate for dealing with specific problem areas
- 2) Restrictions on boat size for transients.
- 3) Same as #1 plus implement user education and sign hazardous areas.

Suggested Option:

Option #3. This option represents a compromise between the need for safety oriented controls on boating and expressed opposition to restrictions on River use.

Waste Management

Keystone Waste Disposal Site: Management

Public Comments:

Twelve comments were received.

- Responses indicated general dissatisfaction with the management of the dump site. Negative comments suggest cleanups have been amateurish, that the dump was better maintained before the Park was established and that the MNR assertion that the situation was "under active review" was inadequate and perceived as a stalling tactic.

Constructive comments included:

- have site managed by a private contractor with the establishment of a user fee, utilize dumpsters;
- carry trash further inland by manually operated cable/dump apparatus to reduce 'fear of bear' trash in water;
- establishment of new dump site should be convenient (otherwise illegal dumping will occur); and
- MNR should provide incentives to tourist operators to encourage campers to bring out their garbage to them for disposal

1985 Park Policy:

The Management Plan identified Keystone dump as the only authorized solid waste disposal site within the Park and stated the facility would be maintained (section 3.3.2). The Plan further provides, where there is no practical alternative, for development of new disposal sites within natural environment zones in the Park.

Information Update:

Improper use, either through fear of bears or negligence, has resulted in refuse accumulations close to the shoreline and in the water at the Keystone Waste Disposal Site. MNR cleanup efforts have been inadequate to maintain the site in an environmentally acceptable condition.

Accumulations are nearing capacity (within 5 years), and development of a new disposal site is being actively pursued by the Ministry.

Options Considered:

- 1) Close dump and establish an alternative disposal site.
- 2) Continue use of current facility until capacity.
 - continue efforts to develop an alternative landfill site
 - MNR to improve maintenance efforts until site closure
- 3) As in #2; Establish a partnership to operate and maintain the facility.
 - permit a private contractor to manage the site and collect a user fee
 - dump to be managed during park season
- 4) Establish transfer station which could be periodically removed.
 - permit a private contractor to operate the station and charge a user fee

Suggested Option:

Option #2. Pending approval of an alternative disposal site, continued use of the Keystone dump, as an interim measure, remains a practical option for management of solid waste without resorting to user fees.

Refuse Collection Stations: Establishment

Public Comments:

Four comments received.

- support the establishment of garbage collection stations

The general consensus was that establishment of these facilities should have a higher priority.

1985 Park Policy:

The intent to establish refuse collection stations is identified in the Park Operating Plan.

Information Update:

Park users are encouraged to refrain from littering and to "carry out" garbage. The Operating Plan (1987) suggests collecting stations be established and maintained at primary access points during the operating season. At present 6 of the 7 identified primary access locations have agreed to the proposal and one collection station has been established at Hartley Bay Marina.

Options Considered:

- 1) Establish collection stations.
 - MNR to establish and maintain as funding permits
 - 2) As in #1; MNR in partnership with existing organizations.
 - MNR to establish, partnership to maintain operation, on a seasonal basis without a user fee
- 3) As in #1; MNR to arrange for privatization.
 - private contractor to establish and maintain collection stations with the implementation of user fees
- 4) Take out what you bring in policy.

Suggested Option:

Option #2. Priorities established in the Park Operating Plan, along with the current level of available funding, will not permit the MNR to establish the required collection stations unless cooperative agreements are undertaken.

Past experience has shown that implementation of user fees for garbage collection sites resulted in increased littering on the river and that a policy of carrying out your own garbage was ineffective.

The collection station established at Hartley Bay, a cooperative effort without user fees, has been very successful.

Provincial Policies

Parks Policy Legislation: Changes

Public Comments:

Four comments were received.

- all expressed opposition to legislated changes in Park policy and suggested that the issue be discussed with local MPP's

1985 Park Policy:

There is no provision in the Management Plan which addresses this.

Information Update:

Public consultation was an important component in the development of the 1985 Park Management Plan. That decisions made in provincial cabinet can alter management decisions (e.g.: ban on commercial trapping) developed through public consultation is a source of concern for both Park managers and Park users.

The Management Committee is opposed to legislated changes in Park policy and has formally requested that the Provincial Parks Act be amended to prohibit policy changes without public review.

The Provincial Parks Act is currently under review.

Joint Management Committee response:

The Joint Management Committee maintains that this issue cannot be addressed by this review process.

First Nations Interests

Use of Park By Natives: Aboriginal Rights

Public Comments:

Six comments were received.

- 3 comments in favour of native rights within Park
- 3 comments opposed to anyone having special privileges - discriminatory

Provincial Parks Policy:

As outlined in the Ontario Provincial Parks Planning and Management Policies (WA-III-4), Management Plan policies are without prejudice to, and may be superseded by, any settlements of claims made between the Ontario Government and Indian Bands in Ontario.

Information Update:

The rights and privileges of native Canadians within the Park boundaries are not clearly defined.

Joint Management Committee response:

The Management Committee agreed that this was a Federal/Provincial matter and not an issue which could be dealt with by this review process.

Administration

Park Regulations: Are More Regulations Necessary?

Public Comments:

Public response to the first tabloid: "Background Information and Issues", has identified the need for increased regulation to protect the Park environment. Implementation of additional regulations without public support may be interpreted as contrary to the strategy outlined in the 1985 Management Plan.

Please refer to the following issues for "Public Comments":

- Massasauga Rattlesnake: Nature Reserve Inadequate
- French River Fishery: Rehabilitation Efforts
- Bad River Rapids: No Swimming Policy
- Houseboats: Regulations
- Personal Watercraft: Regulations
- Snowmobiling: Regulations
- Boating: Regulations

1985 Park Policy:

Opposition to restrictions on traditional users of River has resulted in an emphasis on achieving, where possible, management objectives through non-regulatory means such as user education (section 1.2.2).

Information Update:

Park policy is followed as closely as possible.

Options Considered:

- 1) Implement new regulations.
- 2) Continue current level of regulation.
 - consider additional regulations only if it is clear that other measures (e.g. public education) have failed and the integrity of the Park environment will benefit
- 3) No new regulations.
 - current level of regulation is sufficient to deal with existing problems

Suggested Option:

Option #2. Although the practice of common courtesy is the preferred management technique within the Park, it should be recognised that regulations, if necessary, provide an effective management tool.

Park Funding: Insufficient

Public Comments:

Five comments were received.

- all maintain that the current level of funding was inadequate

It was suggested that lack of sufficient funding to meet Park objectives has resulted in the public no longer trusting the MNR.

1985 Park Policy:

Implementation of the Park Operating Plan will be based on work program planning and funding (section 6.1).

Information Update:

The Park Operating Plan was approved in 1987. This document outlined management objectives for the Park and provided cost estimates and time frames for the achievement of specific goals. Funding constraints have delayed implementation of portions of the Operating Plan.

Options Considered:

- 1) Continue to implement Operating Plan as funding permits.
- 2) As in #1; but encourage partnerships and permit privatization where such actions complement Park objectives eg. Park Map produced and distributed in cooperation with the French River Heritage Foundation and the Ministry of Tourism
- 3) Establish user fees.

Suggested Option:

Option #2. Since enhanced funding is doubtful, this option would promote achievement of Operating Plan goals without the necessity of establishing user fees.

MNR Reorganization: Effect on Park

Public Comments:

Two comments received.

- In light of the corporate reorganization currently being undertaken by the MNR, will administration of the Park be conducted from new regional office in Huntsville (rather than Sudbury)?
- Which district(s) will have authority over the Park?

1985 Park Policy:

There is no provision in the 1985 Management Plan for this situation.

Information Update:

MNR reorganization is in progress. French River Provincial Park will continue to be managed as a single unit.

Joint Management Committee response:

The Joint Management Committee maintains that, with respect to this review, this is a non-issue; the management plan deals with Park operation by MNR policy, who implements the policies should not matter providing the public has access to its' administrators.

Joint Management Committee: Representation

Public Comments:

One comment received.

- the Joint Management Committee is influenced too much by tourist outfitters

1985 Park Policy:

The Ministry of Natural Resources will encourage the formation of a co-operative association to assist in the management of the river. This would involve resort and property owners and interested persons based on the theme of shared responsibility in river management (section 4.5).

Bilingualism in Park: Not Implemented

Public Comments:

Two comments received.

- Park should always be referred to by its two official names to reflect its history and the makeup of the local population
- previous tabloid should have been bilingual (or francophone version available at same time) MNR excuses about time constraints is unacceptable

1985 Park Policy:

All written park material will be in both French and English. This is in keeping with:

- the resident francophone population,
- the policy of the present government in provision of more French language services,
- the thrust of the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation in providing more French language services to vacationing francophones (ref. Park Operating Plan).

Information Update:

Sixteen organizations were initially invited to appoint representatives to the French River Joint Management Committee and there is provision for new groups to gain representation. The following organizations are currently represented:

- Ministry of Natural Resources
- French River Resorts Association
- French River Delta Association
- Canoe Ontario
- Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
- Citizens of Albin Area
- Lower French River Cottagers
- Central French River Cottagers
- Upper French River Cottagers
- Dokis Indian Reserve
- Sudbury Trappers Council

Joint Management Committee response:

The Joint Management Committee maintains that, with respect to this review, this is a non-issue; the organizations which contribute to committee representation reflect a relative cross-section of Park users.

Information Update:

Park policy is followed as closely as possible.

Time constraints did not permit the Francophone version of the first tabloid to be available at the same time as the English version. The necessity to supply available information at the scheduled public meetings provided the rationale for this action. Francophone versions of the tabloid were made available within two weeks of the release of the English Version.

Joint Management Committee response:

The Joint Management Committee maintains that, with respect to this review, this is a non-issue; services and publications will continue to reflect the bilingual nature of the Park.



Eau

Gestion des ressources

Les commentaires sont groupés selon les catégories correspondant aux cinq séquençages permis par la procédure. Dans une catégorie supplémentaire, on a regroupé les commentaires

- Nombre approximatif de personnes assister aux réunions publiques
 - Nombre approximatif des personnes ayant participé à des réunions publiques
 - Nombre total de communautés servies par la Poste
 - Nombre total de communautés desservies par la Poste
 - Nombre total de communautes

Résumé des réactions du poudre à base de magnésium et d'oxyde de zinc sur les polymères publics.

- comme l'application de la loi sur les assurances et la sécurité sociale. Les deux dernières sont en cours de révision.

A la suite de cette distribution, le Ministère des richesses naturelles a reçu 56 réponses à laquelle commentent plus d'un probable Ces commentaires ont été pris en

- Le résultat de l'application de la méthode de l'analyse des séries temporelles à l'ensemble des données de la base de données de la Côte d'Ivoire est illustré dans le tableau 1.

pour les usagers et les groupes d'intérêt à avoir un rôle actif dans la gestion et l'expansion du parc. Au cours de la phase I, on a diffusé une brochure concernant des renseignements

Votre opinion a de l'importance



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